Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 02415 251908Z ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0704

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

U/AMCONSUL MUNICH 0122

UNCLAS LISBON 2415

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

- 1. IN PORTUGAL, TWO INSIDE-PAGE FACTUAL NEWS ARTICLES REPORTED MARCH 24 ON ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST FOR FUNDING OF NEW RFE/RL AND VOA TRANSMITTERS.
- 2. LISBON CENTRIST "JORNAL NOVO" OF MARCH 24 ITEM ON PAGE SEVEN WAS HEADLINED, "GREATER POWER FOR AMERICAN TRANSMITTERS." ARTICLE DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF PRESIDENT'S BUDGET REQUEST AND QUOTED HIS JUSTIFICATION OF IT. REPORT ALSO MENTIONED THAT RFE/RL BROADCASTS ARE TRANSMITTED FROM SPAIN, PORTUGAL AND WEST GERMANY. "JORNAL NOVO" SAID REF/RL BROADCASTS ORIGINALLY WERE UNDER CIA TUTELAGE BUT THAT U.S. CONGRESS IN 1971 MADE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 LISBON 02415 251908Z

THAT PUBLIC, AND SINCE 1974 THE STATIONS "FUNCTION UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF CONGRESS. THESE STATIONS WERE CREATED IN THE FIFTIES AS A 'COLD WAR' PRODUCT TO PROMOTE ANTI-COMMUNIST IDEAS IN THE SOVIET BLOC..."

3. PRO-SOCIALIST "A LUTA" OF MARCH 24 PUBLISHED PAGE FOUR ARTICLE HEADLINED, "U.S. TO STEP UP RADIO

TRANSMISSIONS FOR THE EAST; ONE TRANSMITTER STATION LOCATED IN PORTUGAL."
THIS ARTICLE IS ALMOST EXACTLY THE SAME ONE MENTIONED ABOVE, INDICATING BOTH ARE REWRITES FROM THE UNCITED WIRE SERVICE.
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